RARE BOOKS
COLLECTION

Drama

The Only American Indian Actress

G O - W O N - G O - M O H A W K

in her

Picturesque Play

W E P - T O N - N O - M A H

The Indian Mail Carrier

written by

Go-won-go-Mohawk and Charlie Charles.

Pr.

She claims

of Brooklyn

NY.

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A C T I.

The Round up. Exterior of Col. Stockton's ranch. Capt. Franklin discovered at rise meditating, moving restlessly about stage.

Capt. Franklin.

It is very annoying to be kept waiting so long for my Uncle to come, but wait I must for I am entirely out of funds, and although I have really no claim on him now, having received all my inheritancy from him, he must let me have some money. The money I got by forging our Major's name must be paid tomorrow at all hazards or I shall certainly be dishonorably discharged from the army, or perhaps something far worse. However, there is no use bothering ones self about what is done, the only thing that remains is to find means to remedy the evil and as the only means is money and the only resource my Uncle, he must let me have it, and have it I will no matter what the consequences may be.(Enter Spanish Joe R. U. E.)

Joe.

Hello, Capt. Franklin. What are you doing here?

Franklin.

Waiting to try and get some money from my Uncle.

Joe.

Yes, you want money and so do I. You sent me with that forged letter to the friend of Major Russell, and if we are found out, I will require money enough to take me to a safe distance. So get all the money you can from your uncle at once for that little daughter of his is such a fine dutiful child that the old gentleman seems to love her above everything.

Franklin.

I am aware of that, and would not feel very much grieved if she ceased to exist for she is very much in my way.

Joe.

It would be a risky job for anyone to try to put her out of the way. Captain, what do you think of that Indian lad that comes around the Fort and Col. Stockton's ranch so much? The Colonel seems to have taken a great fancy to him, so much so that he is going to offer him the position of mail carrier for the Fort.

Franklin.

A capital one for the position, Joe, but a bad one to try to hold up.

Joe.

Those Indian ponies of his go like the wind; he is not only a dead shot and lightning with the knife, but he is as muscular as a panther and the best horseman for miles around. Wouldn't he make a valuable addition to my outfit? Eh! Franklin? (pokes him in side)

Franklin.

Joe, things have arrived at a point where a certain amount of money is absolutely necessary. I must settle the money I got on the Major's name - desperate diseases require desperate remedies

Joe.

(confidentially) Captain, no one knows of the forgery of the Major's name but me. So I advise you to get the money by some means, be it fair or foul. (Col's voice heard outside.)

Franklin.

Herecomes Col. Stockton's party now, let us step aside until we find what kind of a humor he is in. (both Exit R. U. E.) Music

(enter Sam over run R. U. E. come on Stage from L. U. E. carrying huge basket, sets basket down by Cabin - wipes perspiration from forehead.)

Sam.

Whew! dar's de commissary stores, as de good ole Colonel calls de eadibles. Ugh (rubbing arm) my arm most broke off at de knee a toating dem. I reckon de rest ob de fambly be here right

suddent. Dey was only tarrying along de road to let little missy Nellie gather some wild flowers, they is daisies, and she's one too. De Col. Made Miss Matilda git out de wagon fear de hosses die ob 'zaustion. (looks off R. U. E.) Well! Great Scott!! if dar don't go dat scapegrace nephew ob de boss, Capt. Franklin, an dat Spaniard what's allers a hanging round de garrison. I don't like to see dem fellers meandering round, it looks kind o'suckspicious, I don't take no stock in dem two fellers (hears yells and calls R. U. E.) Golly here comes de Injuns and Cowboys, what's going to help at de round up and Black Fox too, all de Injuns loves him. (Music. Enter Black Fox and Indians, etc.)

Black Fox.

Hello! Sam old boy (shakes hands) all alone? where's the rest of the folks. We've come over as we promised to help the Col. at the round up. (confidentially) I just met Capt. Franklin and that Spaniard friend of his whose name nobody knows - he's a mysterious chap - he tells me came here to buy a lot of cattle from Col. Stockton.

Sam.

Buy! buy! cattle, why he don't look like the kind of Gemmen what goes to de trouble of buying anything he can get by stealing. I seen a lot more jes like him in dis vicinity lately. (Waving hands) Now Gemmen make yo selfs to home fur I expect de Col. and de res ob de folks immediately if not sooner(Music. Voices heard outside. Enter Colonel L. U. E.)

Colonel.

Ah! Fox me boy, I am glad to see you. (Shaking hands, turning to Indians and shaking hands) and you too my red brothers. I thank you for coming to help me at the round up. Your kindness shall not soon be forgotten. So now come into the house and have some refreshments, and then we'll go to round up as I see the cowboys are already getting to work. (Music. Enter Matilda L. U. E.

down to L. corner sit in chair, smirking and looking shy.)

Matilda.

Mr. Black Fox is such a sweet, noble, gentleman that he has almost won my foolish girlish heart, but I musn't let him know it just yet.

Fox.

(Aside) What a giddy old girl Matilda is.

Sam.

I do believe Miss Matilda done fell in love wid Black Fox (Music Nellie comes running and skipping on L. U. E.) Why Hello, hello everybody. (Shaking hands.) Why hello Fox (Shaking hands) I'm awfully glad to see you here.

Fox.

Miss Nellie, I'm mighty glad to see you here at the round up.

Nellie.

Well, if there is anything going on, I always like to be on hand with the rest of the boys. Pa.Pa. What is the meaning of "round up?"

Colonel.

Why, don't you know what a "round up" is? But I had forgotten you have always been at school in the East where you were not likely to hear of such things which are especially of the great West. So sit down here and I'll explain it to you. (Sits in chair,- Nellie sits on his left knee) In the spring of the year all the cattle owners on the different ranges have their cowboys drive their cattle up together, then circle in round them so th at they can't get away, this is called rounding them up, then other cowboys mounted on strong long legged horses, bred expressly for the purpose, drive the young cattle into a carroll where other cowboys are waiting with hot irons to brand them and let them go again. It is very dangerous work for sometimes there are thousands of cattle on the ranges and some of them are very vicious, but the principal danger to be feared is from the elements for a thunder storm accompanied by vivid flashes of

lightning is sure to stampede the cattle and they surge o'er the prairie as irresistible as the waves of the ocean.

Nellie.

But what are those little low roofs of logs I see spotted about the plain?

Colonel.

They are to provide a retreat in just such danger as this. They are underground houses covered with strong logs into which the cowboys can ride horse and all until the danger is over - these are called "dug-outs" - so now you know what a round up is.

Nellie.

(Jumping from Col's knee) Oh! how I wish the cattle would stampede now, it would make things so lively.

Colonel.

(Rising) Lively! Well, I should say so, a little too lively. (To Chief) but how is it my Indian boy is not here with you?

Chief.

Oh! you mean my boy, Wep-ton-no-mah.

Nellie.

(Going to Colonel) Wep-ton-no-mah? Why, that's the Indian boy you so often speak about.

Colonel.

(Putting arm round Nellie) Yes, my darling, and though an unusual phrase to use towards an Indian, he is one of the noblest, bravest, most gentlemanly youths I have ever met, literally one of nature's noblemen. (Nellie runs off L. U. E. Stand ready to go over run at cue.)

Chief.

He gone break wild Pony.

Colonel.

Oh! Yes , I had forgotten, Capt. Anderson told me that he had a beautiful though very wild pony he was going to get Wep-ton-no-mah to break for him - noble, generous youth, always ready to do

anyone a service.

Chief.

Big White Chief good man, like my boy, he good boy, learn hard from book White Chief give him. Officers at Fort teach him too. He know how make paper talk like pale face. Big Chief be good to my boy when I go happy hunting ground.

Colonel.

Chief, don't talk about going to the happy hunting grounds, you have a long life before you, I hope, and a son to be proud of, but remember one thing, if ever Wep-ton-no-mah needs a friend (taking Chief's hand) he'll find one in me.

Distant Music - "Oh! My Gallant Steed" - grows gradually louder until Col. gives cue "I'll go too" and Exits, then loud burst of melody. Wep-ton-no-mah rides in (Well here we are just in time - to be too late. Buckskin, me boy, it's very seldom we get left) and halts. Music stops - at cue "Seldom we get left" interlude for song - cue "away we go" music to take Wep-ton-no-mah off.

Chief.

Ye, yip.

Colonel.

That's the talk.

Matilda.

And I'll be a mother to him.

Sam.

And I'll be a grandmother to him.

Nellie.

(up on run) And I'll be a sister to him. Oh! look there (pointing off R) there go the cowboys, how handsome and brave they and their beautiful horses look, but what an awful thing it would be if any of those daring riders should be injured today, but they look as if they knew how to take care of themselves and others too for that matter.

Oh! I'm just dying for a run, so I'm off to see them start in - good-bye Papa, I'll be back soon (Kissing hand to Colonel) come on boys, catch me if you can. (Waves hat and rushes off over run followed by all hands R. U. E. all yelling and laughing.)

Colonel.

(Looking after them) Bless their happy hearts, I guess I'll go too (Exit R. U. E.)

Enter Franklin and Joe R. 2 E.

Joe.

There goes the life of the round up.

Franklin.

Yes, and the death of the cattle theives.

Joe.

(Looks Savage) I wish I had his horse.

Franklin.

I think you have the finest chance in the world of not getting it.

Joe.

That was a long wait.

Franklin.

I know it was, Joe, but I have no desire to talk over affairs with my uncle before everybody.

Joe.

Do you think he saw us retreating?

Franklin.

No, and if he did he would suspect nothing, knowing that I have a right to come here.

Joe.

Say Franklin, if you do not succeed in getting the money from your uncle, introduce me at his house and I'll soon show you how to get it.

Franklin.

What! do you think I would introduce a man like you into my

Uncle's family.

Joe.

No, I don't think so. I know you will. You would not like me to give that note to Major Russell, would you? My dear friend Franklin.

Franklin.

(impatiently) Well, I'll do as you say, but no violence remember. (Col's voice outside. Yes. Yes, I understand.)

Joe.

Hush. I'll conceal myself while you persuade your uncle to pan out. (Warningly) And see that he does it. (Exit with Franklin R. 2. E. Enter Colonel and Sam R. U. E. Col. speaks as they come on.)

Colonel.

So Sam you say you saw that nephew of mine Capt. Franklin and a companion loitering about here some time since. Eh? (Sits on bench R.)

Sam.

Yas sir, I did.

Colonel.

I suppose he is waiting about until he can gather up courage enough to ask me for some more money, that's about all that ever brings him here.

Sam.

You know you always gives him some, dats what brung him back so often, youre too good Colonel.

(Enter Franklin briskly R. 2. E. goes L. C.)

Franklin.

(Saluting) Good day Uncle, can I speak to you alone for a few moments, I just rode over to see you.

Colonel.

Sam you better go back to the round up. (After business with Franklin Sam exit into house.) It is hardly worth while for me to ask what brought you here for I am sure it is the same old

story of wanting money. Now you have commenced your interview with me by telling a falsehood. You say you just rode over to see me, when I know that you have been loitering about here with a companion for some time past.

Franklin.

Uncle I had no idea that an hour or two would make any difference, but you have guessed correctly. I have come to ask for money. I am in desperate want of it. I have an obligation to meet tomorrow that if I fail, will cause me to be cashiered from the army and possibly imprisoned. So for the sake of the family name if nothing else, let me have a few hundred dollars.

Colonel.

(rising and cross ing to door) Thank Heaven your name is not the same as mine, and let me tell you for the last time that not another penny of my money do you get from me.

Franklin.

I did not think so simple a request would make you angry.

Colonel.

Angry! have I not cause to be angry? You never come to see me unless it is for money. You have received all the inheritance left in my charge for you years ago, and still you come and ask me for money as if you had a right to it. You get your pay as an officer in the army, live on it like a man as I had to do on mine. Shake off your vile associates, your bad habits and keep away from me. Had it not been that your poor mother was my sister I would have cast you off long ago, but I had hopes of making something of you. I find now it is a hopeless task, so I am done.

Franklin.

I'll ride over to Cameron's, Uncle, and come back when you are more composed.

Colonel.

It is useless - let this be our last interview, - of that I am determined.

Franklin.

(Merrily) Oh, you're not so hard hearted as that, Uncle, I'll be back. (Waving hand exit R. U. E.)

Colonel.

(Watching Franklin exit.) Ah! you young rascal (laughing) I don't feel quite so angry at him now that he's gone, his father was a gay spendthrift but spent his own money. Oh! I know how it is. I was a pretty high roller myself in my time, so when he comes back I think I'll let him have a hundred or two. (Turns towards house crash Sam, rushes past, Matilda strikes Col. with broom on back.)

Matilda.

(As she rushes from house with broom.) Git out you black Crow, you're too thundering sociable.

Colonel.

Sociable? Well, I should say so. Strikingly so. I guess I'll get out of the line of fire. (Moves toward R.)

Matilda.

(Confusedly.) Oh! Ah! Colonel you really must excuse me - I -a- that is I - I meant to hit the other nigger.

Colonel.

What!

Matilda.

Oh, Colonel I - that Sam will be the death of me yet.

Colonel.

Ah! Well Matilda I'll forgive you.

(rushing in frightened R. U. E.)

Garry.

I thought I heard an earthquake.

Matilda.

It was Sam knocked the cupboard over the stupid jackass. (Exit into house.)

Garry.

Is that all? (Up Center.)

Colonel.

Garry, I'm going into the house to look over some papers, allow no one to disturb me, do you hear?

Garry.

Yis, sor. (Col. goes to door of house turns, salutes Garry.)

Colonel.

On guard. (Exit into house.-

Garry.

Of course I hear you. I'm not blind, and devil a one gits in after what yez have jest tould me. Well, now aint that queer, to see a fine Military Sodger like Capt. Franklin going about bothering his uncle for money. (bus. with stump, etc.) Sure I'm only a poor bit of a lad, but if I was in want of money, I wouldn't be bothering oth r people for theirs but I'd get a job and I'd work for it.

Matilda.

(Inside house) Garry!

Garry.

Yes!

Matilda.

(Appearing at door) Come in here and help me to dry these dishes (leaning on broom)

Garry.

Ah! sure I can't. I'm detailed here as an outpost to repel the enemy and if I leave here I'll be shot for desartion. (suddenly falling on his knees before Matilda with outstretched arms and hand on heart) Oh! Matilda, every time I look at ye, ye put me more and more in mind ---

Matilda.

(Gushingly) Of whom?

Garry.

Me ould Grandmother. (gets up quickly and rushes behind tree. Matilda pursues him with broom) Shinney on your own side.

Matilda.

(furiously) What do you mean?

Garry.

(behind bench) I mean a picture of her when she was sweet sixteen, it was the most beautifullest picture I ever beheldeed.

Matilda.

(Smiling.) Oh! that's different, come in the house now and help me. (Throws kiss to Garry) Au revoir. (Exit into house.)

Garry,

(Going L) I had an awful narrow escaperthat time. (hears cat call) Phat the devil is this coming now (turns and sees Sam) Ah! ye crow, do ye take me for a cat wid yer mew?

Sam.

Hush! Say Garry would like some exillerating beverage. (Showing bottle)

Garry.

Exillerating beverage? Shure that's just the stuff I'm looking for. (taking Sam by arm and confidentially speaking) Sam we'll go over there (pointing to bench) sit down together and have a nice sociable time as neither one of us has anything particular to do and the further we get away from the house the smaller the chance of smelling the whiskey. (Sits on bench with Sam.)

Sam.

(handing bottle to Garry) Garry, what you gwine to drink out of

Garry.

Why the bottle of course, me mouth houlds a pint exactly, here looking at yez (take taste from bottle)(makes awful grimmace) that's the queerest whiskey I ever tasted. I don't seem to hanker after it some how or other. (hands bottle to Sam) take a good pull at it Sam (Sam takes taste seems to consider and hands it back to Garry) Well I'll try it once more any way, maybe my taste was off the last time (takes another taste)and spits it out, hands bottle to Sam who takes another drink) Sam where did

you git that whiskey from?

Sam.

In de barn (bottle to mouth)

Garry.

(Horrified) In the barn? why that's horse medicine! that's not whiskey at all (putting hands on stomach, etc.)

Sam.

(leaping up) Horse medicine! Cats and skyrockets! I'm gwine fur a doctor. Oh ----- (exit twisting L. U. E.)

Garry.

(rising from bench with slow spasmodic movements) I think I have the delirium triangles. I don't know can I go for a doctor. Oh! etc. (gradually work over to stump beside door and sit down exhausted with face to house, enter Capt. Franklin R. U. E.)

Franklin.

This is my last chance of getting money from my uncle. I am sure that miserable desperado Lopez did not give that forged letter to the friend of Major Russell but kept it and gave me the money himself so as to have me in his power. If the Major's friend did have it I would go to him, confess my fault and ask him to let me have a chance to make it good, but I can't do it he has me in his power and he never loses sight of me. (turns and sees Garry) Hello, what have we here. (Cuts stump with whip) Do you belong here? (Sits on bench R.)

Garry.

(Very much startled.) Sure sir, I don't know whether I belong here or not theway things is been going on today. You see, sir, I was walking quietly along the road when with a whiz and a yip a lasso came flying over me head and the first thing I knew I was yanked on the broad flat o' me back in the dust o' the road and thin I heard a loud laugh and Wep-ton-no-mah came riding down beside me for sure it was himself that threw the loosoo ---

Franklin.

(Sneeringly) A loosoo.

Garry.

Jest soo. Well, sir, you see I was afraid of Injuns so I put me blanket round me and a Turkey Buzzard feather in me head so as to deceive them. Well, sir, I told him I was in hard luck, and says he to me says he, if you'll go to the ould Colonel's ranch I think he'll give you a job as first assistant chambermaid wid chances of promotion to cook, and says he to me says he you'll make the ould Colonel laugh. So I came here and the good ould Colonel gave me a job at once.

Franklin.

(impatiently) Well, sir, have you finished?

Garry.

Have I what, sir?

Franklin.

Have -- you -- finished?

Garry.

Oh, sure I have, sir. (rising and standing in front of door, stick under arm)

Franklin.

(rising) Young man your story does not interest me in the least (aside) I'm wasting time with this Irishman. (Starts to go in house, is stopped by Garry.)

Garry.

Where are ye going, sir?

Franklin.

(brushing off Garry's hand) I'm going in to see the Colonel, Stand aside. (imperious wave of the hand)

Garry.

Excuse me, sir, but I'm stationed here as a guard at the door with orders to leave no one past, and devil a one crosses this threshold unless he steps over his own dead body.

Franklin.

(furiously) You insolent scoundrel, I'll throw you over the fence.

Garry.

And who are you, wid your airs and graces?

Franklin.

(very airishly going to R. Corner) I am Capt. Franklin, Col. Stockton's nephew.

Garry.

(bowing very humbly) So you're Capt. Franklin are ye? (laughingly) Well, yer the very one I was told not to let in. (Franklin makes start for Garry) So you'll throw me over the fence, will ye? I'd like to see you try it, you mean looking scibbereen ye. I have a bit of a stick here that would knock a frog into a canary bird so it would. (Franklin makes another start) Oh! you may jump and ye may start and ye may turn a summerset if ye like, devil a hair I care, but if ye try to lay yer hands on me, I'll take one of yer legs and break yer jaw wid it.

Franklin.

Young man, you are getting disagreeably officious, but when you commence meddling in my affairs you'd better keep your eyes open.

Garry.

Capt. Franklin, you have opened my eyes and after what you have just said, I'll keep them on you.

Matilda.

(inside house) Garry!

Garry.

Yes, I'm coming. (Exit into house.)

Franklin.

(impatiently) Pshaw, what a fool I was to lose my temper (going to R. U. E.) but I will see my uncle before the day is over. (Exit R. U. E.)

Colonel.

(Enter from house) Ha!ha! I never saw such a fall in China. (going R. Standing by bench) So that scape-grace nephew of mine

has been getting into another mess that requires money to get out of. Ah, well, he's only keeping up with the times - a man is not considered a thoroughbred nowadays until he has been mixed in two or three disreputable scrapes. How foolish I was to get angry at him, he is only a boy in comparison to me, and seems to lean on me as his only support, it's a wonder to me he hasn't been back. I think I'll send Sam for him. (calling towards L. U. E.) Sam!

Sam.

(outside L. U. E.) Yas, sir. (Supposed to be in distance)

Colonel.

Sam!

Sam.

(running on L. U. E.) Yas sar, here I is.

Colonel.

(fiercely) Well, sir, where have you been?

Sam. ?

Bin down de barn, sar, looking fur eggs.

Colonel.

Well, sir, you go and look for Capt. Franklin, tell him I want to see him right away, do you hear? (Cracks whip at him.)

Sam.

(Jumps) Yas, sar, I'se off. (Run off R. U. E.)

Colonel.

Ha, ha, that darkey will be the death of me yet. I hope I have money enough on hand to give Franklin what he wants to get out of his scrape. (Sits in chair L.) Ah! well, boys will be boys. (Music)

(Wep-ton-no-mah enters leading Buck - mingles with others -Bus. according likeing - Enter all the characters R. U. E. Sam and Franklin come down C.)

Sam.

Colonel, here's Capt. Franklin. (retires up.)

~~Colonel.~~

Colonel.

(rising) My boy, I have reconsidered my determination since I saw you last and have concluded to let you have what money you want, so if you come in the house presently I'll give it to you. Now, don't get into any more scrapes thinking I'm going to help you out of them for I assure you this is the last. So now be a man, a soldier, and an honor to your uniform.

Matilda.

(Saluting) Hem! Colonel, you have been so good and kind to all of us that we have held a protracted secret meeting, hem! at which we have unanimously - hem! agreed to try in our small way to show our love and appreciation of you by giving an impromptu entertainment in honor of your birthday, and furthermore I have had the honor as Chairman of the Meeting to be appointed a committee of one to request you to act as General Director of Amusements - so now we will escort you in state to the chair and make you King of the Festivities. (Bus.)

Colonel.

My dear child and friends, I should have forgotten this was my birthday had it not been for your tender remembrance of me. I am am a tough old soldier, but it almost affects me to tears to see this mark of your affection. I have always regarded gratitude as one of the noblest attributes of mankind and I respect it, especially in youth. I am pleased to see you all so joyous and happy. (all laugh) but now that you have made me King I intend to rule you with a rod of iron (all pretend to be frightened) so you must all do something to contribute to my amusement.

Sam.

I ain't guilty, I didn't have nothing to do wid the flag.

Nellie.

(quietly to Matilda) I'm going to get some flowers for papa. (Exits L. U. E.)

Colonel.

Sam, suppose you start the ball rolling. (Chief exits.)

(Sam's Song & Dance.)

SPECIALTIES.

As specialties come to an end, flashes of lightning are seen, and distant thunder, everyone looks anxious.

Franklin.

(rising and looking at sky) Uncle, it looks as if we were going to have rain.

Colonel.

It does look that way. I think we better get under cover before the rain begins falling. (Chief comes rushing on R. U. E.)

Chief.

Colonel! Colonel! See (pointing to R. U. E.) the cattle have stampeded (Hurry Music. Wep-ton-no-mah leaps on Buck, yells "ye whoop" and gallops off R. U. E. Everybody shouts and rushes off yelling R. all except Colonel and Matilda.)

Colonel.

(excitedly) Where's little Nellie?

Matilda.

(Wringing her hands) She said she was going to gather some flowers for you. (near door of house.)

Colonel.

(looking R.) Great Heavens! the cattle have stampeded and defy the efforts of the cowboys, here comes little Nellie running for her life, if the lightning heads the cattle this way, she is lost. (Wep-ton-no-mah shouts outside L. U. E. Col. looks that way) Here comes Wep-ton-no-mah, my Indian boy. (Wep-ton-no-mah rides swiftly from L. U. E. across stage and off R. U. E.) Help her Wep-ton-no-mah! (hear Wep-ton-no-mah's shouts) She recognizes the warning cries of the Indian rider; may Heaven give her strength to hold out (Nellie cries help, help) She cries for help but Wep-ton-no-mah is rushing swiftly asan arrow to her rescue.

(shot) down goes the first beast (shot) a second (shot) a third shares the same fate, the frightened cattle swerve to the right and left of their fallen comrades, but Wep-ton-no-mah rushes into the space, seizes Nellie round the waist, places her on the neck of his foaming steed (Shouts.) thank Heaven! she is saved.

Goes quickly to Bench R., turns and takes Nellie from Chief drops on left knee with Nellie's head resting on right knee Second picture, extend left hand towards Wep-ton-no-mah as token of thanks.

END of ACT 1st.

A C T I I.

Indian Camp. Chief Ga-ne-gua discovered sitting in front of wigwam. Enter Spanish Joe and Capt. Franklin R. U. E.

Joe.

(turning to Chief) Ah! Chief (shaking hands) I come to see you about buying some ponies.

Chief.

(rising) Ugh., all right, me got plenty good pony (starting to go) come me show you.

Joe.

Well, I talk to you about that pretta soon (Chief exits R. U. E. goes to Franklin) Capt. you promised me that if I take the girl away and she is never heard of again you will give me five thousand dollars from what you expect to inherit from your Uncle. You must give me your written promise or I'll do nothing.

Franklin.

Joe, this is no time for hesitation, the Colonel and his family are likely to arrive at any moment, the girl comes with them, of course, and the slightest sign of embarrassment on your part would lead to suspicion at once.

Joe.

She was quite pleased with me at the Round Up. I don't think I will find much trouble to ingratiate myself into her good graces, but Captain you must remember that I am to be introduced at the Colonel's house.

Franklin.

Yes -- I know that I promised -- but ---

Joe.

(fiercely) I will be introduced, or you will sever your connection with the army.

Franklin.

(impatiently) Well, say no more about it.

Joe.

Then I will do my best to rid you of her this very night, and send her to lost cabin.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(off R. U. E.) Ye Whoop!

Joe.

Hello! What's that. (looks off with Franklin L. U. E.)

Franklin.

There goes that Indian boy, Wep-ton-no-mah, now.

Joe.

I'm not exactly the kind of man to admire the good traits in anyone, but I must say that Indian boy is the most noble specimen of a man I ever saw. The night of the storm and stampede he saved the Colonel's daughter from a desperately perilous position in the face of almost certain death. While you, I, and the rest looked on in paralized horror, he has a great, brave heart but would be dangerous if tampered with.

Franklin.

If he had failed it would have saved you the trouble of disposing of the girl, but do your best as it is no easy matter, for the Colonel never loses sight of her or that Matilda is somewhere about.

Joe.

You can safely leave that to me. I don't think I will have much trouble to induce her to take a little ramble with me, and once on the outskirts of the Indian village my men will soon have her and take her to Lost Cabin - no one will suspect me for I will be one of the first to set out to her rescue.

Franklin.

(offering hand) Then it's a bargain?

Joe.

(taking hand) Consider it done. (Yell outside)

Franklin.

Hush! (exits with Joe. R. U. E.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(outside L. U. E.) Ye! Whoop.

Fox.

What kind of a call is that? That sounds like Wep-ton-no-mah, is that him?

Chief.

Yes, that's him; he knows enough to come home when he gets hungry.

Enter Matilda, Nellie and Sam L. U. E, Matilda and Nellie sit on bank L., Sam up C.

Matilda.

(exhausted) Well, this is worse than working your way ona canal boat. The Colonel rides his fine high stepping horse and hitches the old grey into the carryall. When we come to a hill of any kind the Colonel says get out of the Wagon and walk - the od old grey can't pull all hands up. When it comes to going down hill the Colonel says get out and walk, let Nellie drive the old grey can't stand the weight - so Sam and I we git out and sash-shay down the hill. As the road is all up and down hill I guess the next time I come here I'LL walk - but on second thoughts I reckon the next time I come here I'll stay away.

Nellie.

Matilda, you ought to do like the other elephants do when the circus is on the move - help to push the wagon along. (Jump up and run to L., Sam laughing quietly and coming down near Matilda.)

Matilda.

(enraged approaching Nellie) What! do you mean to call me an elephant (Nellie and Sam get cautiously behind Matilda) Oh! I'm so frightened coming to this Indian Camp, I'm sure if I was to see a real live Indian suddenly, I should expire. (Sam and Nellie give Indian yell, Matilda screams, wheels around giving Sam

a pivot blow, knocking him down - then seizes him by seat of breeches, lifts him up - Nellie runs to R. corner) What do you mean by frightening me to death - you black crow.

Sam.

(rubbing head) Say, Miss Matilda, what you tink my head made out of sole leather? (Nellie laughing in R. corner)

Colonel.

(Enter L. U. E.) Here, here, what's the meaning of this terrible turmoil, anyone would think you had all just escaped from a monkey cage.

Sam.

Yas, sar, she did (pointing to Matilda, enter Joe and Franklin R. U. E.)

Franklin.

Good day, Uncle, myself and my friend came to visit the Indian camp, it's an unexpected pleasure to meet you here, allow me to present my friend, Signor Lopez, my Uncle, Colonel Stockton.

Joe.

(shaking hands) Colonel, I am charmed to make your acquaintance

Colonel.

And I am glad to meet you, sir. (laughingly) but I'm afraid you're one of my nephews wild companions (poking Joe in side) but I suppose you must all sow your wild oats. Signor, allow me to introduce Miss Matilda, the belle of the household, and this is my daughter Nellie (taking Nellie down C.) now, Nellie, try and amuse the Signor and possibly he'll tell you some stories of his picturesque country Spain.

Nellie.

Oh! Papa, Signor Lopez is such a stern looking man I ---

Colonel.

My child, you must never judge people by appearances, now look at Capt. Franklin, he's a perfect Apollo Belvedere - but thoroughly worthless, now this Signor Lopez seems to be a fine

gentlemanly sort of a fellow. I wish Franklin had some of his staminа in his composition.

Nellie.

All right Papa (goes to Spanish Joe) Signor Lopez I should like very much to have you tell me something about your picturesque country. I have read so much about it at school.

Joe.

(bowing) Nothing would give me more pleasure Signorita (to Franklin) Captain, you will excuse me, and if the Colonel has no objections I will do my best to entertain you.

Colonel.

No objections in the world, Signor, I'll be only too glad if you can amuse my little daughter.

Nellie.

(going R. 1. E. with Joe.) Good-bye, Papa, I'll be back soon. (Kissing hand to him.)

Colonel.

That's right, well Franklin me boy, I hope you got out of that scrape of yours all right Eh!

Franklin.

Well - not exactly - Colonel, but I'll call at the ranch and tell you all about it.

Colonel.

That friend of yours, Signor Lopez, seems to be a fine manly sort of a fellow. I wish you had some of his independence of character.

Franklin.

Colonel, I'll go and join them now, so good-bye for the present. (Exit R. U. E. Colonel shakes hands with Chief.)

Garry.

(rushing on L. U. E. looking after Franklin.) Come back soon or our hearts will break for the want of you. (turns meets Colonel

Colonel.

Ah Fox me boy (shaking hands) I want to thank you for ~~keeping~~

helping to stop the stampede.

Garry.

Oh, sir, I didn't try to stop the stampede, I was trying to keep the cattle away from Wep-ton-no-mah so he could reach Miss Nellie, the frightened herd pressed himso close, but he's as cool as a cucumber in the face of danger but he had an awful close call.

Colonel.

That's just the reason why I came over here to thank Wep-ton-no-mah but where is he?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(outside) Woha, there.

Garry.

(pointing off L.) Here he is now. (Music. Enter Wep-ton-no-mah L. U. E. Shakes hands with Colonel.)

Colonel.

Wep-ton-no-mah, I am glad to see you. I came here expressly to thank you for your bravery in saving my daughter,Nellie's life at the risk of your own. Simple thanks are inadequate to express my admiration of your unequaled heroism. So I offer you the position of Mail Carrier at the Fort; it is not an enviable position as it is one of danger, but the pay is in keeping with the risks of the situation.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Colonel, I thank you for your great appreciation of what I have done; it is only what any other man would have done under the same circumstances. We Indians, savages as some of the civilized whites calls, think nothing of doing a little service like that for anyone.

Garry.

(Aside) He calls risking his life a little service.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Where is Miss Nellie?

Colonel.

She's just gone to take a stroll with Sig. Lopez, but they'll be back presently (going L.) so come and join the rest of the folks until they return.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Thank you, Colonel, one of the most picturesque spots about our camp is the rock hollow down by the spring, so if you will let Fox guide you down there I'll join you presently.

Colonel.

Thank you, me boy, but don't be gone long. I leave Sam here to wait for you until you return. (Exit L. Wep-ton-no-mah exits R. U. E.)

Sam.

(calling after Colonel) Colonel! Colonel!

Colonel.

(Enter L. U. E.) Well, well sir, what's wrong?

Sam.

(frightened) I don't want to stay in dis Injuns camp all by my self, sir.

Colonel.

You stay here till Wep-ton-no-mah comes back, do you hear, don't you leave this spot.

Sam.

(looking down) Dis spot? I'd sooner leave dat spot (pointing Col. exits L.) I ain't gwine to stay here -(hears whistle) I'se gwine to git. (exit L.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(Enter R. U. E.) That was a peculiar sort of whistle. I heard it once before when we drove the Mexican cattle thieves off Col. Stockton's ranch. I did not like to hear the Colonel say "The White Fawn had gone to walk with the Spanish Signor, Wep-ton-no-mah will be on the alert. (Exit L. U. E.)

Franklin.

(Enter R. U. E.) That was a signal from Spanish Joe's gang to let him know they were ready. I'll conceal myself and watch operations. (Enter Spanish Joe and Nellie arm in arm R. U. E.)

Nellie.

Signor Lopez, your glowing description of your beautiful country was very entertaining, and I am much obliged to you for your courtesy. The only mar to the enjoyment was your foolish declaration of love for me. Why you have only seen me twice besides I have a romantic love for the Indian youth who saved my life at the risk of his own, and I can't help loving him, and above all I have no wish to leave my dear kind father.

Joe.

Then you will not listen to my pleading to fly with me and be mine. My ranch in Mexico is a paradise.

Nellie.

Ha! ha! Signor Lopez, your persistance makes me laugh, but I must insist on refusing. Why, my father would never think of consenting, much less me. I hope you will not sever our pleasant acquaintance by mentioning the matter to him.

Joe.

(savagely) Then I will be compelled to use force for mine you shall be.(advance to seize. Nellie is met by Wep-ton-no-mah.)

Wep-ton--no-mah.

Why does the Black Panther frighten the White Fawn?

Joe.

Stand aside this is no affair of yours.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Go! while you have a chance to leave here.

Joe/

You shall pay dearly for this.

Joe

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(Exits R. U. E. Wep-ton-no-mah raises Nellie) did the

Black Panther frighten the White Fawn?

Nellie.

No, he didn't exactly frighten me, though he spoke very rudely to me, but it is said a man is not accountable for what he says when he is in love, and he told me that he was in love with me, that I must be his and all such stuff, but don't mention this to my father as it will only annoy him and do no good.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

The White Fawn need have no fear for Wep-ton-no-mah will shield her with his life.

Nellie.

(Aside) My Hero.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Ugh! White Fawn. (Nellie goes to Wep-ton-no-mah and both exit R. U. E.)

Matilda.

(Enters hurridly L. U. E.) Well! that everlasting nigger Sam will be the death of me yet. He came rushing down to the spring just as we were about to have such a lovely time, the Colonel and Fox were enjoying the wine and Segars, and I am sure that dear, brave, beautiful man Fox was just getting ready to propose for he has in a thousand little ways how he adores me, but like all great, brave, noble men, he is too foolishly backward in declaring his burning love for me, and I poor little fluttering bird that I am have not the courage to force him to a declaration (Indian yells) Injuns!! (faints in Sam's arms, see Fox looking at her) Ah! noble, brave Fox how fortunate it was for me that you were here to support me in your strong arms when I fainted at the sight of that terrible Indian. (Sam moves away) let me rest once more in those loving arms (drop back and sits on floor.)

Sam.

Miss Tildy you got any talking to do stand up. (Indian makes a break for Matilda who scrambles up and goes to L. Corner,

Colonel enters just as Matilda drops.)

Colonel.

(seeing Wep-ton-no-mah and Nellie) Hello! where is Signor Lopez?

Nellie.

Oh! sudden urgent business called him away just as Wep-ton-no-mah came up. Oh, I have not been lonesome. I was just coming in search of you.

Colonel.

And I was just coming in search of you. Sam came rushing down to the Spring with such terrible stories of ghosts, hobgoblins and such like that I thought I better come here and investigate.

Sam.

Yas, sar, I heard a mighty strange sort a whistle, and I seen some awful queer looking shadows.

Matilda.

Oh Sam (jumping) Mercy sakes alive, don't be so expressive, but I'm sure Sam must ave heard or seen something for when he came rushing dnwn to the spring he was as pale as a ghost?

Nellie.

K Oh! goodness that is terrible.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

No cause for fear, many strange sounds and calls in the woods, birds, animals, sometimes call comes from white man or Mexican this time plenty bad white man and Mexican about at Round Up time. Good to be on watch. Eh, Father?

Chief.

Yes, always good.

Colonel.

Well Wep-ton-no-mah, me boy, I must go back to the Ranch now, so come and see us soon, I'll take no refusal. (Exit L. U. E.)

Nellie.

You will be sure and not forget to come. (Parting regretfully.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Wep-ton-no-mah never forgets, he will come. (Exit Nellie L. U.E. Sits on stump L.) I've made up my mind that something is going to happen, and that something -- unusual. (Chief comes from wigwam.) The Col. offered me the position of Mail Carrier for the Fort - he is a good kind friend - but I could not stand being under the control of anyone except the great Manitou. I want to be free - free - like the birds, the eagles and deers - owning no master but one.

Chief.

(go to boy - puts hands on shoulders) My boy, Ge-na-gua proud of of such a son. If all Indian boys like you, then have no trouble. My boy read books - learn write - so can make book and paper talk. If Colonel want risky work done, he send for my Boy - for he know my boysmart and brave. You be Col. some day too.

Wep.

My dear father, I'm so proud to have you praise me - but I am contented to be as I amso to follow in your footsteps as you have followed your fathers and some day if I live to be chief of my tribe and diea true American Indian.

Chief.

Ye whoop! Come my boy me make light, big book talk.

Wep.

All right, father, you go in and I'll come and make big book talk. I don't feel exactly right tonight. I feel as though an evil spirit was hovering over us. How that little candle sheds its beams, so shines a good deed in a wicked world. Ah come along Buck, I'll take you down to the spring and give you a drink of water. (Exit with Buck L. U. E.)

Joe.

(Enter stealthily R. U. E.) That's Wep-ton-no-mah at the light now. I have never allowed anyone to knock me down like a dog and live to boast of it. I would have killed him on the spot,

had I not been afraid of the Colonel's daughtergiving the alarm. I have no fear they will suspect me. My horse is right here waiting for me. Ah, my brave Indian (Pistol in hand) this is your last heroic act. (takes deliberate aim) This from Spanish Joe (fires and exit L. 1. E.)

Colonel.

(Enters hastily L. U. E.) We were just ready to start for home when we heard a shot (meets Franklin who enters R.1. E.) Franklin what is the meaning of this?

Franklin.

I don't know, sir, it brought me back too. (Enter Wep-ton-no-mah L. U. E.)

Wep. Hello, what's wrong?

Franklin.

Perhaps Wep-ton-no-mah can explain.

Weptonnomah.

Explain what?

Colonel.

The shot that was fired.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

A shot fired here?

Colonel.

Didn't you hear it. I fear some onehas been hurt.

Wep-ton-nomah.

If therehas been anyone injured, I was intended for the victim. (Groan.) There must be something wrong!

Colonel.

It came from that wigwam.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Colonel, if there is anything wrong in there let Wep-ton-no-mah be the first one to know it. (goes in wigwam and brings out Chief with the assistance of Colonel they lay him down, Wep-ton-no-mah looks round wildly.) My Father!

Colonel.

(touching Wep-ton-no-mah on shoulder) Wep-ton-no-mah, me boy.

Wep-ton-no-mah

Come father it's time to be up, the lark has risen long ago, ha, ha, We'll have a great time at the Round Up today and Wep-ton-no-mah will make the big book talk to you tonight. Come, come father.

Colonel.

(leaning over him.) Wep-ton-no-mah, me boy, cheer up, your poor father may not be so badly hurt after all.

Chief.

(smoothing Wep-ton-no-mah's head) My boy, he good boy, be good to him.

Colonel.

(Cap in hand) I promise.

Chief.

Wep-ton-no-mah, be good, brave boy and don't forget your father's murderer is Spanish Joe. (Dies.)

Everybody.

Spanish Joe?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Spanish Joe! let that name be branded on my brain in letters of fire, the noonday sun shall not discover his enemy, the darkness of midnight shall not protect his rest and before many moons have sailed through the starry skies, I shall have hunted down h the assassin of the noble Chief Ga-ne-gua, my father.

Curtain.

"Lapse of three months."

A C T I I I .

Colonel Stockton's Parlor.

Colonel.

(Enter at rise.) Ah, well, what a true old saying it is "there is no place like home" and I dislike to leave mine if it is only for a day. (Sits at desk.)

Matilda.

(Enter C. D.) Why, Colonel, I'm so glad to see you home again.

Colonel.

Hello, Matilda, any news of Nellie yet?

Matilda.

Not yet, Colonel.

Colonel.

Matilda, can you keep a secret?

Matilda.

I think I can, Colonel.

Colonel.

But remember you're a woman.

Matilda.

Yes, Colonel, but there are exceptions.

Colonel.

Oh, very well, then here is the secret. I have made my will this morning and left everything I possess in this world to little Nellie. You see I am growing old, grouty, and disagreeable.

Matilda.

Oh! Colonel.

Colonel.

Yes, Iam!

Matilda.

Yes - yes - you are.

Colonel.

What! and instead of me takingcare of her, she can take care of me.

Matilda.

Oh, you dear kind, good old Colonel. (Attempts to hug him.)

Colonel.

(Warding her off.) Here, here, go about your business, and let me know as soon as Nellie comes. (Exit Matilda laughing, Colonel sits.)

Sam.

(Enter C. D. singing and marching, arms full of papers lays them on Colonel's desk.) Excuse me fo disturbing uv yo, Colonel, but hyar's a few communications dat was left hyar fur yo, sar. I didn't desire fo to leave them on you escritoire fo fear Miss Matilda would dust dem off. (Lays letters on desk, salutes Colonel and exits singing.)

Garry.

(Enters with rush.) Colonel, I'm glad to see you. I hear them Mexican cattle thieves are raiding around the country again.

Colonel.

Have you heard anything of Nellie.

Garry

No, sir.

Colonel.

Then you get out of here. Matilda wants you, git. (Exit Garry) I think this household is going crazy (looks over letters)' Here's a letter from our paymaster telling me that had it not been for an Indian youth riding up just in time to drive off Spanish Joe's gang of Mexican thieves from Tom Brown's coach, h he would have been robbed of a large amount of money. Why here's a letter from Tom Brown himself and a dandy it is too in the writing and spelling. Why he also says that an Indian youth dashed up just in time to save the outfit from being robbed; he also says that the Indian youth told him he was coming to the fort for a horse and that should he come would I see that he was properly rewarded - an Indian youth, can it be possible; but no, my Indian boy has disappeared, how time flies; it is just three

months ago that he saved my little daughter Nellie's life at the risk of his own. I have been at the Indian camp at least a dozen times of late and can find no trace of him. Ah! now would be my time to show my gratitude but I' can't find him. (Nellie and Sam appear at door giggling) Scat (giggles) scat (Nellie sneaks down behind Colonel, puts hands over his eyes.)

Nellie.

Who's got you.

Colonel.

(Jumping up and hugging Nellie) Oh, Nellie, you scoundrel, what do you mean by frightening me to death. I've been expecting you all the morning. So here you are home at last, your school days are over and you'll never have to leave your old dad again. How are you?

Nellie.

I'm quite well papa, and how are you and all the rest of the folks.

Colonel.

Here they are to answer for themselves.

Enter everybody C. D. Matilda hugs Nellie.)

Nellie.

Matilda, how beautiful you look especially that yellow bow.

Matilda.

Do you really think so.

Nellie.

Oh, I'm so glad to get home.

Colonel.

We're awfully glad to have you home.

Nellie.

Where's Capt. Franklin?

Colonel.

Oh, he's out and in as usual; he's still stationed at the Fort.

Nellie.

Do you ever see anything of that friend of his (thinking) - Signor Lopez?

Colonel.

No, Nellie, we haven't seen anything of him since the night good old Chief Ganegua was killed.

Nellie.

Chief Gan-ne-gua? Why, that was my hero's father, but Wep-ton-no mah, does he often come here?

Colonel.

My darling, we have seen nothing of him since the night of his poor father's death, though I have had the strictest search made for him.

Nellie.

Oh, I hope nothing has befallen him. I had counted so much on seeing him when I came home.

Colonel.

Ah well, Nellie, don't worry yourself, go to your room and rest after your long journey and I join you presently (Music) Shoo-shoo. (Exit after rest D. D. R.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(appears at C. D.) Well, these folks seem to be keeping open house. I've knocked and rapped but can't find anyone - this is a pretty little place. I wish I had a home; it must be very pleasant to live one's life away in a peaceful place like this (sighs Music.)

What is life? tis a beautiful shell
Thrown up by Eternity's flow
On life's bank of quicksand to dwell
And a moment its loveliness show
Gone back to it's element grand
Is the billow that washed it ashore
See - another now washes the strand
And the beautiful shell is no more
Ah well there is no use in repining (rises) I must find somebody or I'll be arrested for a burglar. (Exits C. D.)

Colonel.

(Enters quickly C. D. looking about) I am sure I saw someone

that time, but they might as well be ghosts. You no sooner see them than they're gone (turns) (and nearly collides with the Colonel, who comes in with a rush.)

Colonel.

furiously) Did you go out of here just now?

Wep-ton-no-mah

Yes, sir, did you dome in here just now?

Colonel.

Yes, sir, I both came in and out.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

So did I.

Colonel.

Well, sir, who in thunder are you?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Why Colonel can it be possible you have forgotten me. (taking off hat.)

Colonel.

(Looking closely.) What! no, yes it is Wep-ton-no-mah, my Indian boy (hugs and shakes him) Here call out the army, call out the navy, call out the police, hail Columbia right side up - here sit up stand down I mean. Ha, I don't know what I do mean ah, you truant you. What lucky wind blew you in here for, of all men. I'm glad to see you. (Shakes hands heartily.)

Everybody.

(rushing in C. D.) What's the matter?

Colonel.

(excitedly) Look at him, look at him, don't you know him.

Matilda.

(going to Wep-ton-no-mah) Well, sakes alive, if it ain't Wep-ton-no-mah, bless your dear heart, why where have you been for so long.

Garry.

Well, well, we had given you up for lost, how are you? (shaking hands)

Sam.

(putting Garry aside) I suspose it's a dangerous sort of liberty for a colored gentleman to talk wid an Injun gentleman, but Mr. Wep-ton-no-mah I would like to have de honor of shaking hands wid you (Bus.)

Colonel.

Sam tell Miss Nellie to come here (to Wep-ton-no-mah) I hardly think she'll know you in that rig. (Sam at C. D.)

Sam.

Hyars Miss Nellie Colonel (Exit L, enter Nellie, goes to table R.)

Colonel.

Nellie, I wish to introduce you to a very dear friend of min, Mr -- a -- Mr. I a that is -- I can't remember the name(laughs and goes to L. corner)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Can the White Fawn so soon forget Wep-ton-no-mah?

Nellie.

(turning) Why it's my hero, Wep-ton-no-mah (extending both hands) Father said he didn't know what had become of you.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

And your father was right.

Nellie.

But you're here now and you're going to stay ain't you.

Colonel.

Well you bet he's going to stay until I court martial him for being gone so long without leave of absence. (Sam appears at door.)

Sam.

Ladies and Gemmen, I'se extremely distressed for to dis-interrupt you, but Capt. Franklin and another Gent desires an interview wid de Colonel. (Colonel fires handful of papers at Sam.)

Colonel.

Show them up (Sam vanishes) Now if you folks will go and amuse yourselves till I see these Gentlemen I'll join you soon.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

But Colonel, ---

Colonel.

Git out the whole lot of ye (everybody exits C. D.) I never saw such a troublesome family. Sam put head in door.)

Sam.

Is it all right, Colonel(Colonel fires paper at Sam who disappears. Just as Colonel gets his coat on Sam returns) Capt. Franklin, Colonel. (Sam retires, Capt. Franklin and Joe enter Joe disguised.)

Franklin.

Good day, Uncle, allow me to introduce Prof. Alvarez. My uncle Colonel Stockton.

Colonel.

(shaking hands with Joe.) Glad to meet you, sir.

Joe.

And I am pleased to make your acquaintance Colonel.

Colonel.

(Sets chair C. for Prof., who sets it back at end of his speech and sits at table.) Now sit down, gentlemen, and make yourselves at home. (Franklin and Joe sit R. Colonel sits at desk.)

Franklin.

(sits L. of table.) The Professor has come to see you about some horses; he is one of the most noted Veterinary surgeons in the Southwest.

Colonel.

I have no doubt but what we will be able to suit the Professor but as the shades of night are falling fast, suppose you accept my humble hospitality until tomorrow morning and then we can arrange matters.

Prof.

You are very kind, Colonel, and I will gladly accept your kind invitation.

Colonel.

Franklin, won't you remain too?

Franklin.

Thank you, Uncle, but I must return to the Fort.

Prof.

(rising and going to Colonel) Colonel, I desire to ask a favor of you. I have a large amount of money with me. (taking wallet from pocket) and I will thank you if you will be kind enough to put it with your valuables until we have completed our transactions. (hands wallet to Colonel.)

Colonel.

Why certainly, Professor, but I have no safe here as I am not afraid of burglars but I'll lock it up in my desk there which I call my Treasury.

Prof.

I am sure it will be safe with you (returns to seat, R. of table

Colonel.

(puts wallet in desk.) Prof., you must excuse my agitation but my daughter Nellie has just returned from school and I wish you to see her (goes towards C. D. is met by)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

I beg your pardon Colonel. Where's the rest of the folks.

Colonel.

I don't know where they are just at present but since you are here let me introduce you, Prof. Alvarez this is the brave Indian rider and terror to all overland stage robbers, Wep-ton-no-mah.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(Bows) Hello Capt. how are you?

Colonel.

(takes Wep-ton-no-mah's arm) Come now and we'll find the rest

of the folks. (both exit C. D. L.)

Prof.

(Who has been looking stupefied ever since his introduction to Wep-ton-no-mah, hysterically) Wep-ton-no-mah! no, no , he is dd dead. I killed him myself, shot him through the side of his wigwam. Can it be that my evil deeds are driving me mad. Horrors, how they stare at me through these prison bars as though I were a fierce wild beast and say to themselves we have him at last - at last.

Franklin.

(Seizing Prof. by shoulder in stage whisper.) What's the matter Joe?

Prof.

Hands off. (throwing Franklin aside and starting to draw pistol You'll never take me alive, I didn't kil l him.

Franklin.

Kill who?

Prof.

(confidentially) Wep-ton-no-mah, I shot and killed him that night we were at the Indian camp, and just now he stood before me there - there just as he looked in life. ha, ha, ha, I'm goi ing mad - mad. (sinks into chair with head on table.)

Franklin.

Miserable wretch, if it was you that murdered the Indian that night, it was not Wep-ton-no-mah you killed.

Prof.

(startled) Who then?

Franklin.

Chief Ganegua, Wep-ton-no-mah's father.

Prof.

Wep-ton-no-mah's father! what a horrible mistake, for in his son I'll have a bloodhound on my track. Luckily he did not see through my adisguise - courage Joe - courage Franklin. I thought that I had seen a ghost - that I was going mad.

Franklin.

No such luck, the Devil takes care of his own.

Colonel.

(Enter C. D.) What's wrong with the Professor, nothing serious I hope. Sam bring some brandy. (Sam brings in decanter of cold tea and two wine glasses.)

Prof.

I trust you will accept my regrets for having startled you all but I assure you it is of no consequence. I have been subject to such attacks ever since my childhood, all I require is a little rest - I have overtaxed my nervous system of late.

Colonel.

Then make yourself as comfortable as possible and we'll have a little music to entertain you. Sam ask the folks to come in, will you?

Sam.

(appearing at door) Yas, sar, Ladies and Gents de Colonel desires yo presence in de draw room. (Enter Fox.)

Colonel.

Professor this is Mr. Frank Fox (they bow, Fox sits R. of C. D.) (Enter Nellie and Wep-ton-no-mah) and this is my daughter Nellie (bows)

Franklin.

Nellie, I'm glad to see you home again.

Nellie.

Thank you, Captain, I'm glad to be home.

Colonel.

Nellie, won't you sing something for us.

Nellie.

I'll try Papa. (Sings after singing come and sit between Wep-ton-no-mah and Colonel. Matilda does specialty, folks gradually exit, except Prof. and Franklin, When Matilda is off Col. enters C. D.)

Franklin.

You'll excuse me, but I must be off, duty after pleasure, you know, so good night. (Exit C. D.)

Colonel.

Well, good-bye.

Prof.

Colonel, allow me to thank you for the pleasant entertainment.

Colonel.

Don't mention it, Professor, that's the way we try to amuse ourselves here in the Country - Wep-ton-no-mah, me boy, won't yu you remain tonight.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Thank you, Colonel, but I must go to my village.

Colonel.

I'm sorry to hear it, Professor, when you want to retire there's your room. (pointing D. F. R.)

Prof.

Many thanks, Colonel, I will go to my room at once as I want to look over some papers before I go to bed. Good-night, Colonel. (shaking hands)

Colonel.

Good-night, Professor, and pleasant dreams I hope you'll feel better in the morning (during this conversation Wep-ton-no-mah comes down sits L. of table with head on hand. Col. returns and see him, puts hand on shoulder) Wep-ton-nomah, me boy, what's wrong no gloomy thoughts I hppe? (Sits R.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Ah, Colonel, life will alway be gloomy to Wep-ton-no-mah I was so happy the day you brought the White Fawn to visit our Village since that time,---

Colonel.

Well, me boy.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

I've been on the trail of my father's murderer (bus.) Colonel

I want to ask a favor of you.

Colonel.

It's granted before another word is spoken.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

I want the position of Mail Carrier at the Fort.

Colonel.

That's just the position I've always wanted you to take but when do you want to start.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Tomorrow morning, sir.

Colonel.

I'm sorry to lose you so soon - but tell me, you rascal, was it a conspiracy that brought you and Nellie here on the same day.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

No, Colonel, I came in on Tom Brown's coach two days, but went straight to the Indian Village and to visit my father's grave.

Colonel.

Dutiful boy - Tom Brown's coach? why that's the coach they tried to hold up and the Indian youth - Oh, I see it all --(rising) So you're the Indian youth, are you? Well do you know what the penalty is for interfering with a paymaster's duties, it's a ball and chain, but as I don't think that punishment is severe enough I'll make it - a watch and chain, to say nothing of the penalty the Overland Stage Co. may have in store for you.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

You're too kind, sir. (goes up R. C.)

Colonel.

(going up to Wep-ton-no-mah and putting hand on his shoulder) Wep-ton-no-mah, me boy, this search which you are about to undertake for Spanish Joe is a perilous one, there is a reward of five thousand dollars offered for him. I've had my scouts and a whole company of cavalry on his trail and couldn't take him; he is a splendid horseman and a dead shot, so your position is not an enviable one.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Col. I have weighed all the chances for and against , and only death can take me off the trail I follow.

Colonel.

You are a noble boy, and I am proud to know you (shaking hands) but won't you stay till morning?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Thank you, Colonel, on second thoughts I will stay.

Colonel.

That's right, me boy, and when you want to go to bed (pointing to D. L.) there's your room (confidentially) no one would think that I had five thousand dollars locked up in that little desk Eh! me boy. Well good night, good night, me boy, (shaking Hands) and pleasant dreams. (Exit D. F. R.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(looking after Col.) Good-night, my dear kind friend. (looks cautiously about, takes hat and whip and exits D. C. R.)

Prof.

(looks cautiously from door R.) Five thousand dollars in that desk; it will soon be mine (moves from door to door on the look-out) I have no intention of remaining here all night, what I want is the old man's money and I'm off. I can easily open that desk. (attempts to open it, is seized by Wep-ton-no-mah, struggle, fall, Wep-ton-no-mah on top) Don't strangle me, you have got the best of me. I have taken nothing.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

No, because I was too quick for you.

Prof.

Let me go and I promise you will never see me again.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

I was sure I knew you. you are the Black Panther that frightened the White Fawn at the Indian village/

Prof.

(Who has managed to get out his pistol) Yes, and I'll kill you (attempts to shoot, pistol goes off, Wep-ton-no-mah seizes pistol hand. Everybody rushes in.)

Colonel.

What's the meaning of this?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(yanking Prof. to his feet.) This scoundrel tri ed to rob you and kill me.

Colonel.

Professor,Alvarez, impossible!

Wep-ton-no-mah.

He is not Professor Alvarez.

Colonel.

Who then!

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(pulling off Prof's wig and beard) Look for yourselves!

All.

Manuel Lopez!! (Picture)

Curtain.

A C T I V.

Scene 1st.

Stockade Fort. Sentry discovered at rise pacing his post, passes of L. U. E. Joe enter hurridly and haggard, shirt torn, etc., looks nervously about.

Joe.

I have given them the slip. They must be fools to think they could keep Spanish Joe in the guard-house. I will stay round here till I see Franklin. They will never think of looking for me so close to the Fort, besides it is risky for me to travel in daylight. (Voice heard) Somebody is coming. I'll hide in the bushes. (Exits L. Enter Col. & Franklin from Fort.)

Franklin.

Col. what's to be done?

Col.

Nothing can be done at present; he must have escaped several hours before anyone knew of it. He is a cunning chap, doubtless knows every path through the thickets about here, and is no doubt concealed somewhere till night fall, then he will continue his flight. Strategy and not a troop of cavalry will have to be used to recapture him, and I can't think of anyone better suited for that purpose than the one who captured him first.

Franklin.

Wep-ton-no-mah?

Col.

Yes, my Indian boy. When he comes in with the mail I'll give him a detail of troopers, and send him on the trail and it won't be long before we hear from Manuel Lopez, your friend. But we're all liable to be mistaken in people at times, so I forgive you for I'm several hundred dollars in pocket by his visit. Ha! ha! (Exit into Fort with Franklin.) Bring round a lot more of your veterinary surgeons and Wepton-no-mah will make them leave their cash. (Enter Sam.)

Sam.

Say, Billie, is Wep-ton-no-mah got in wid de mail yet?

Voice in Stockade.

Not yet, Sam.

Sam.

Well, I do hope to gracious nothing ain't happened to him fo dey do tell me de Cattle Thieves is pirooting round this section stealing cattle an raising de deble in gener al, and jest now I seen dat miserable sneaking daigo dat was lurking round de Injun Camp de night Wep-ton-no-mah's father was killed. (Enter Matilda, quickly slaps Sam on shoulder.)

Matilda.

Hello, Sam, what's the matter?

Sam.

(startled) Matter, matter enough (beckoning to Matilda) Miss Mattie, do you remember de Daigo was at de Injun camp de night de Chief was killed?

Matilda.

I'll never forget him, Sam.

Sam.

(very mysteriously) Jes while ago I see him and three other villainous looking scoundrels riding along de road towards de Ranch and I want to tell Wep-ton-no-mah.

Matilda.

(mockingly) Is that so. Well that's no news. I've seen him too; he seems to be a great friend of Captain Franklin's, and they have lond confidential chats together.

Sam.

(imitating her) Is dat so. Dats de berry reason Wep-ton-no-mah should be put on his guard and I'se gwine to tell him soon as I sees him. (mumbles)

Matilda.

Sam, stop your mumbling and tell me if you have seen Capt. Franklin this morning.

Sam.

Capt. Franklin, ha! ha! Capt. Franklin, you don't want to see no Capt. Franklin. Yo after dat wild Irishman, Garry Cullin.I knows ye.

Garry.

(inside Stockade.) Look out for that long eared pony, he'll kick you clean over the Stockade.

Sam.

Yah, ha, here comes de Capt. Franklin you want to see. I'se gwine to git. Two's company and three is more dan day's any necessary fur on sich a serious occasion as dis yer meeting. (rushes to stockade runs into Garry both down, Matilda beats both with basket and goes to R. corner.)

Garry.

What's goin on here, if yous two want to fight leave innocent people alone, or I'll call the guard. Matilda, I pulverized at beholding such conduct as these in you's. (getting up and shaking fist at Sam.) Sam I'll have revengence.

Sam.

Garry, what yo want to be coming out de gate fo jes as odder people is going in, ain't you got no manners. Miss Mattie was going to take de roof off my head fur telling her she wanted to see you.

Garry.

Did you tell her that, Sam, ould boy, shake. (shaking hands) I forgive you. (suddenly) but if ever I catch you's two fighting agin, ever agin, I'll - I'll forgive yez (rubbing head) Oh, I've an awful bump on me head from the colusion.

Sam.

Can't hurt my head. (L)

Matilda.

Garry, I came over here to tell you something (R.)

Garry.

Did ye now, and it's meself that's mighty glad to see your smili

smiling face and hear your cheering voice, you're a regular charmer, so ye are.

Matilda.

Is Capt. Franklin here?

Sam.

I was looking for Wep-ton-no-mah meself when I met Miss Mattie.

Garry.

Ah! dry up you ould Zulu and give Mattie a chance.

Matilda.

(seizing Garry's arm.) Yes, for what I want to say to Garry is very important.

Sam.

(pulling Garry to him.) So's mine important, listen here Garry.

Matilda.

(pulling Garry to her.) Come here to me (bus.)till Garry stamps on Sam's foot.)

Sam.

Ugh. (picking up foot and expressing pain.) What was dat a Corn Crusher (holding foot under Garry and Matilda's face) Say, I want you to stinckly understand dat's my foot, fust thing yo know somebody's nigger get killed wid yo dog gone foolishness.

Garry.

Well, I must stand somewhere. I can't walk on air like a fly. What's the matter with you two magpies anyway?

Mattie.

(seizing Garry.) Now listen.

Sam.

(seizing Garry) See here Garry.

Garry.

(breaking loose) Sorra a thing can I hear or see. Either of yez don't tackle me one at a time. (Sam catches Garry winking at Matilda) Now Sam you lead off.

Sam.

(sulkily) I ain't gwine to tell you nothing now, I'se gwine xxx down de road to meet Wep-ton-no-mah. (Yells and exit singing L. U. R.)

Garry.

Sure, Sam's a good darkey, he's an honor to his race. Now Mattie, me gal, what's the news and how's yer dear little self.

Matilda.

I'm very well I thank you Garry; it's about a conversation I over heard that I wanted to tell Wep-ton-no-mah, but as I won't have time to wait till he comes I'll tell you and you can tell him. (hits Garry on breast with basket and knocks him sitting on bench.)

Garry.

You'll knock me brains in, now fire away Mattie.

Matilda.

(confidentially.) As I was coming over here from the Ranch, I heard voices behind me on the road, so I hid behind the trees to see who it was. When they came up I saw that one was Capt. Franklin and I am almost certain the other was Manuel Lopez.

Garry.

(frightened.) Manuel Lopez?

Matilda.

Hush! Yes that miserable burglar that Wep-ton-no-mah captured when he was trying to rob the dear old Colonel? Oh, wasn't it awful?

Garry.

Yes, it was disgustable.

Matilda.

Oh, I most faint when I think of it. (falls against Garrry.)

Garry.

Stop that swooning now. I can't reviverate ye.

Matilda.

(recovering) And just think of it, broke out of his log prison

almost killed the guard and escaped. Nobody has seen him since. Oh, but he was a hard case, and what a fine handsome gentleman he was that night in the parlor. I was afraid Fox would get jealous of me the way he looked at me - but I am pretty. Sure the man with Captain Franklin is him --

Garry.

(starting up) Then I'll give the alarm right away.

Matilda.

If you do I'll break your back. (grabs Garry and jams him down on bench.) Set down! now listen, I heard him tell Capt. Franklin that he had paid a forged note for him and he wanted his money back or he would disgrace him at the Fort; they had an awful angry discussion and I heard them say something about ambushing Wep-ton-no-mah at Rattlesnake Creek. So I thought I'd put him on his guard. (gets up, suddenly bench upsets, down goes Garry.)

Garry.

What did you get up like that for, you know you're heavier than I am.

Matilda.

What did you sit down like that for.

Garry.

Oh, me back bone is dishlocated. (getting up and limping to R. Corner) Sure, I think it was time he was put on his guard wid them two blackguards plotting agin him. And since the Colonel's gone to Washington Capt. Franklin has things his own way, but Matildy, yer worth yer weight in gold and I'll tell Wep-ton-no-mah the minute I sees him.

Matilda.

Well, I must go now Garry (hugging Garry) so good-bye, give my love to Wep-ton-no-mah.

Garry. Faith I'll not.

Matilda.

And why not?

Garry.

Sure, I want it all meself.

Matilda.

Oh, you rogue. (looks towards Stockade) Oh, Garry here comes Capt. Franklin I'll skedaddle. (Garry and she hug hurridly, she turns at entrance, kisses hand to Garry and off R.1. E.)

Garry.

(kissing his hand to her) Bon sour you giddy ould skedaddler, that's French. (starts in Stockade, sees Franklin.) Here comes Capt. Franklin sure enough, if I'm caught here I'll be massacred. (hides behind barrel and as Franklin comes out slides into Stockade.)

Franklin.

Thank heaven, Lopez has left this vicinity - So far I am safe. I wish the guard had shot him when he was making his escape. I had to lie to my Uncle and tell him that I never met Prof. Alvarez till an hour before I introduced; that his disguise completely deceived me, that explanation satisfied my credulous old Uncle. What a fool I was to allow myself to be drawn into that game of poker. Knowing little or nothing of the game, I lost more heavily than I was aware of, and not having the money to settle, I forged our Major's name toa note and gave it to Lopez to deliver to a friend of the Major's and get the money, but I am sure he kept the forgery and gave me the money Himself. (Joe enters) Oh, if I was only in some other position than an officier in the army. I'd leave this country and Manuel Lopez for ever. (Joe has entered from L. U. E. during the close of this speech and overhears it, steps quietly behind Franklin and touches him on shoulder.)

Joe.

(sneeringly) Good day, Captain Franklin.

Franklin.

(startled) Why Joe (aside) curse my luck, I was just thinking of you.

Joe.

(with sarcasm) Indeed it was so kind of you. Don't you try to play a double game on me. I have you still in my power. You can't run away and leave me in the lurch as you so nobly propose to do, for I have you watched constantly, my faith in your honor is so great. I've a mind to give the Major your forgery on his name and have you kicked out of the Stockade.

Franklin.

Hush, not so loud, someone may hear you.

Joe.

Then treat me as you should. I've been your only friend in need and am having great trouble in getting back what money I loaned you.

Franklin.

And how did you obtain that money?

Joe.

I warn you for your own sake not to trifle with me on that subject. I shall not intrude on you at the Fort again until I come for a final settlement. If I want you I'll send for you. (Bugle call)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(Music till Wep-ton-no-mah is on. Outside L. U. E.) Ye Whoop. (Joe exits R. 2. E.)

Garry.

(rushing from Stockade.) Hooray, here comes Wep-ton-no-mah, here comes the Indian Mail Carrier; now for news from home (Enter Wep-ton-no-mah, Sam, and Pinkie L. U. E.) Why hello, Wep-ton no-mah, how are ye?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(getting off horse, shakes hands with Garry) Oh, I'm bang up,

Garry, a little tired and dusty. Here Billy take this mail to the Adjutant please, and now I'll give you fellows your letters Garry here's one for you (hands letter to Garry.)

Garry.

For me? Well, now who'd ever think of anybody writing to me. Maybe there's some penmanship into it or possibly it's a Valentine. (Exit in Fort.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

San, I havn't got any letter for you

San.

(R. corner) I ain't got no time to be perusing no letters. I got my hands full educating ere Bullfoundland Terrier. I found him down de road and I done christened him Pinkie.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Good day, Capt., here's a letter for you (hands it to him) and another addressed to your care (hands him that also) that letter ain't regular mail, it was handed to me by a Mexican who said he thought you might be here. If Manuel Lopez wasn't such a dear friend of yours I take him to be one of those billious looking cattle thieves I always see about when he's around and I'm not so sure but what he is one. Circumstances are strong against him and if I owned any cattle in this section I'd make it too warm for any such as him to stay round here.

Franklin.

What do you mean?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

I don't like him and want to see as little of him as possible and I mean just what I say.

Franklin.

He once said your Indian nature was beginning to assert itself.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

He wants to go slow with that sort of talk or he'll find the Indian nature will make it lively for him. (Exit into Stockade with Franklin.)

Matilda.

(comes cautiously on R. 1. E.) Whist Sam!

Sam.

(suddenly waking startled) Say, what yo doin gal. I thought yo gone home long go.

Matilda.

Sam, has Wep-ton-no-mah gone with the mail yet.

Sam.

Not yet, Miss Tildy.

Matilda.

Oh! Sam, ain't it awful to think of Wep-ton-no-mah carrying the mail over that deadly route. What a fine courageous fellow he is. I'm so glad I'm a soldier, hem! I mean associated with them. I do so like to hear the band play and see the drills. I feel so brave at times I don't think anything could frighten me. (Sam imitates dog) Ugh. (Startled) Sam, you babonn, behave yourself. Sam was you ever in a battle?

Sam.

Had a taste of it.

Matilda.

Stood your ground did ye?

Sam.

No sir! I run.

Matilda.

Ran at the first fire, did ye?

Sam.

Yas, indeed, and I'd a run before it I'd knowed it was coming.

Matilda.

Do you think anyone would have missed you if you had been killed

Sam.

Missed me! missed me! Ugh, I'd a missed meself an I'd ruther be a living nigger dan a dead hero anyday. (Bugle)(Sam and Matilda cross to L. and look towards Fort. EveryBody comes on.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(inside Stockade) Good-bye, boys, take care of yourselves. (Bugle cheers Wepton-no-mah rides on C. and halts.)

Col.

(R.) Wep-ton-no-mah, it devolves on me to wish you a safe termination of this perilous journey which you have had the bravery to volunteer to take. Your friends are all assembled to see you off, your last trip was all that could be desired not a single mishap; it is just about a month ago that the Pony of the Mail Carrier came in riderless and we have seen nor heard nothing of the poor follow since. So far as a Mail Carrier you are a success, be very careful of yourself on this ride.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Colonel, if I have no fear, I who am to face the danger, you kind dear friends must not allow yourselves to be worried, but if I should not come back in the proper time you'll be good to Buckskin if he comes back to you without a rider. (Everybody affected, Nellie with handkerchief to eyes.)

Col.

Wep-ton-no-mah, don't talk that way, you only make us all feel bad; there's no danger of your Pony coming back riderless, you'll turn right side up with care. You're not the kind to be sent under.

Nellie.

Father, only talks that way to cheer us up (wiping eyes) but I glory in your noble retaliation of your father's murder. Wep-ton-no-mah, hound him down and when you find him kill him as he he killed your father. That's what I'd do if anyone killed my father.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Brave little heart, Well, I must be off so good-bye and good luck (rides off L. U. E. Bugle sounds. Band play a few bars. All go in Stockade but Franklin. Joe comes stealthily from R. 2. E. Shakes fist after Wep-ton-no-mah.)

Joe.

I'll make that youngster eat his words yet. Any letter for me Franklin?

Franklin.

Yes, you're foolish to allow yourself to be annoyed by a head strong boy; let's read these letters; they are of more importance than he is (reads) I thought so, heaven only knows what the result will be. I must have money in some way. I can't b orrow any more.

Joe.

(Who has been reading letter) Look here, Franklin, the contents of this letter is as of much consequence to you as to me if you will faithfully aid me in carrying out it's instructions. Now, listen, the leader of my gang writes me that an immensely wealthy ranchman named Carroll sends through the fort mail so as to run no risk of the regular mail being robbed, a large amo nt of money in bills of the highest denomination put up in regular letter shape. Wep-ton-no-mah carries this valuable package. Rodrequez proposes to drug him when he stops at Lost Cabin to take his usual drink; he thinks the gang there are all his friends and he will be an easy victim, now if you'll help me I'll help you with a few thousand dollars.

Franklin.

(looking about) Joe, I'll do it but you better go about it very carefully, for I wouldn't give much for your life if he knew you were his father's murderer, Spanish Joe. (Garry and Sam come from Fort.)

Garry.

Spanish Joe, holy poker. (Joe draws knife, makes rush at Garry who holds up barrel Sam behind him with Pinkie in his arms.)

Sam.

Sick him Pinkie (Bus.)

Joe.

Lend me your pistol (Sam and Garry rush into Stockade.)

Franklin.

I have none. (changes pistol from R. to L.)

Joe.

Confound th t Irishman, he has heard everything, but he must not live to tell it, come. (take Franklin by wrist and points off R. closed in.)

Scene 2d.

Wood in 1. Enter Garry on a rush, hair on end and out of breath, trembling with fright.)

Garry.

Och mein leiber goll - Great Caesar, I thought that greaser woud execute me for sure before I could get away from that ould barrel. Oh, but that's a fine dog Sam's got, if it wasn't for that same noble animile neather one of us would have excaped. I don't suppose Sam would take any money for that dog. I don't believe anybody would give a cent for it, he just behind me Oh, I feel as though I could larrup a dozen greasers in Wep-ton-no-mah's behalf.

Joe.

(in R. 1. E.) That Irishman must not escape.

Garry.

(trembling.) Did yez hear what he said that Mick mustn't ex-cape - here comes the Daigo and Captain Franklin on a rush but the won't catch me. (hides behind tormentor R. Enter Joe and Franklin R. 1. E. Joe first.)

Joe.

Come, Franklin, let's hurry on and see that all goes right.

Franklin.

(Stops) I'll go no further, it's too risky a job.

Joe.

What are you going to back out now, is your courgge failing you before you face the danger.

You wasn't afraid to forge the Major's name.

Franklin.

You're a fine one to taunt me with forgery, you a murderer.

Joe.

Murderer, ha/ ha, be that as it may you are as deep in the mud as I am in the mire, you can't get out without my help, while I can easily do without your's and when I'm on the scaffold you won't be far off. So come, (points to L. 1. E. Franklin hesitates, looks savage for a moment then crosses Joe and Exit L. 1. XE.) Now, my bold Indian Mail Carrier we'll put your Indian courage and cunning to the test(Exit L. 1. E.)

Garry.

(comes from hiding place.) Yes, me bould buccoo and before ye git through wid yer devilment ye'll think ye were struck wid lightning (looks R.) here comes Sam and the other dog. I'll lay low. (hides as before.)

Sam.

(Enter R. 1. E. with Pinkie, string tangled about leg) Say look hyar Miss Pinkie how you expose Ise gwine to get to de rescue ob Wep-ton-no-mah if you keep tangling dese ere strings round dese legs ob mine. You's a good dog but you ain't got no manners. ~~gwine xe nancy~~ Come on here fo I ain't gwine to carry you Whats de matter wid ye, is you hungry (bus.) Oh! (pulling pistol) if I only had that Spanish Joe now, wouldn't I make it warm for him. (terrible yells) Oh! oh! (drops pistol, picks up Pinkie and rushes off L. 1. E.)

Garry.

(coming on R.1. E. blanket over head yelling.) Ha, ha, oh look at him go. Well that was the only way to get him started (turns round and sees pistol , shies round it to R.) Well, this is the queerest country I ever saw in all the days of me life. You look one way and ye see greasers, you look the other way and ye see Injuns, and now I see pistols growing out of de ground. Oh

I'm awful afeard of them things. I'm not accustomed to explosives. Easy now till I turn his flank (bus. picking up pistol puts finger in muzzle.) Sure it can't shoot me now, I have me finger in th e hole. I'm not such a green horn as I look.(puts pistol in back of belt.) that's the way I sees them carrying them. Yes, that's the way? That's the most uncomfortablest thing I ever had on in all me life. I feel as if I had an Iron back bone, it don't seem to fit me at all. (Shot, down goes Garry in a spasm, slowly recovers) What a jackass I was to monkey wid the ould thing. I might of knowed something would happen to me. I had an awful shock that time. (get up and sees pistol) Ah ye deceiver ye, well, I'll try me chances once more anyway lightning can't strike twice in the same place. So here goes once more if I die in the attempt. (puts pistol back of him picks up blanket.) Well now I'll go and borrow a horse widout asking for it, me and Sam'll get on the outside of it and I hope we'll be in time to help Wep-ton-ne-mah. (hears Sam calls) Sure that's Sam's gentle voice. (another call) he must have got into some kind of a scrape! (call) I'll go to his rescue. Coming! coming! (off L. 1. E.)

Scene 3d.

"LOST CABIN"

Rodreguez discovered at rise sitting on stump.

RoD.

It's about time Joe was here I guess I go light up (lights lantern) that was a pretty stick piece of business finding out about that money being sent by the Indian mail carrier. People always get fooled when they think they are so smart. I have filled this bottle with nicotine from tobacco smoke, put some whiskey in it and a few drinks will soon fix him. (Whistle) here comes Spanish Joe and a strnager. (Enter Joe and Franklin L. U. E.)

Joe.

(at door of Cabin.) All safe!

Rod.

I been expecting you every minute.

Joe.

(entering hut.) This gentleman is a friend of mine. The Indian Mail Carrier will be here in a few minutes. We had to ride like the wind across country to get here before him. He knows me so I will keep out of sight.

Franklin.

Yes, confound you, I wish I was out of this.

Joe.

(takes cup) Well, boys, let's all take a drink to the success of th undertaking.

Rod.

And to Spanish Joe.

All.

And to Spanish Joe. (all drink)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(sings outside.)

Joe.

Hush, here comes the Indian Mail Carrier. I'm off so do your wo work well. (Exit through Cabin door and exit back of cabin and wait for cue) (Franklin sits on keg in corner Rod. stands by door. After song, Wep-ton-no-mah rides on L. U. E.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(Halts) Anybody x home.

Rod.

Yes, come in.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

All right. I'll be there for some of the tangle foot. (gets off horse takes it by bridle) They're a tough gang in there but good fellows to me. I wonder who their leader is. I have never had the pleasure of meeting him yet and I ain't very particular

if I never do. Eh! Wongy. Suppose you excuse your old pard till he gets a drink. (Enter Hut.) Hello, how are ye?

Rod.

First-rate, how are you?

Wep-ton-no-mah?

Well, I'm alive. I ain't got much time to spare so come and take a drink with me. You know everytime I come this way I can't help thinking what a bang up place this would be to rob ay anybody and never be found out. I'm always expecting to find a dead man lying beside the road, this place closed up, and the gang vamoosed the ranch. I feel sort of uneasy thinking about it, but then you're all my friends.

Rod.

Why, certainly.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(suddenly sees Franklin.) Hello! one of your men sick, perhaps (stepping forward)

Rod.

(Stopping him, signifying by pointing to forehead that he is a little off. Oh nothing only a little, taking up cup to drink.) Well, Wep-ton-no-mah, here's luck and a safe journey (they drink)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(spitting out drink.) Phew! what kind o'stuff do you call that you must o' put it in a coal oil bottle.

Rod.

Ah! dat is too bad take one with me.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Yes, give me something to wash that down with, but no more of that stuff.

Rod.

Of course not,that, we'll try another bottle.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Well, I don't often take two drinks handrunning but I'll go ye just once more. (Drinks goes to horse.) Well, I must be off I

got to be down at the Gulch at half past six.

Rod.

(taking hold bridle) I hold horse for you.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Thank you (gets on horse) Wongy, little gal, you'll have to make the dust fly this time. Good-bye, I'm off. (rides off L. U. E.)

Rod.

He won't go far, the drink will soon fix him. I'll go this way and head him off. (Exit L. 1. E.)

Joe.

(coming from behind hut.) Wep-ton-no-mah is just as good as done for (sits on stump L.) So I'll keep house till Rodrequez comes back. (Hears Wep-ton-no-mah,call, looks off for a moment then rushes into cabin.) Franklin! what can be the meaning of this?

Franklin.

(Startled) Whats up!

Joe.

Wep-ton-no-mah is coming back, can he suspect an ambush. I ~~dam~~ don't care to meet him, so I'll git.

(starts for door, is intercepted by Franklin.)

Franklin.

(sternly) No you won't, you'll stay right here and stand the consequences of your cowardly work just as you intend me to do. This is the second of your grand schemesthat has turned out a miserable failure. Why do you fear to meet him, here we are two able bodied men against one partially stupefied boy and you want to leave. Joe, we may as well understand each other now, the only power you hold over me is that miserable forgery and in the hands of such a man as you I don't think it could do me much harm if I chose to deny the signature. When I get clear of this miserable business I'll make a full confession to Major Russell

and th Colonel trust to their kindness to forgive me and end my associations with you forever.

Joe.

(savagely) You dare not!

Franklin.

Dare not? once free from this scrape and you'll see whether I dare not, it gives one great dourage to know that they are doing right. (Wep-ton-no-mah's voice heard L. U. E.)

Joe.

Hush! (as Franklin looks through door Joe escapes through window)

Franklin.

Confound him, he has given me the slip. (Business. Wep-ton-no-mah rides on L. U. E. very shaky.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Hello! hello, there some one come a give me a lift. I feel as if I'd fall off my horse. I guess that coal oil bottle did me up. Yip thare, why don't you answer me. Well as I've always had to do since I was a child, I'll try and help myself (gets off horse goes to half open door pushes it open, Franklin gets behind it) Nobody here? that looks suspicious considering how I feel but I will fool them. (Hides Mail) Wongy, little gal, look at your old pard you've carried me on that little back of yours as safely as a Mother would her babe, and if you and I can't outwit that gang we'll give up carrying the mail. I'm so dizzy I don't think I can hold out much longer. I wish Garry or Sam were here Wongy, little gal, take care of the mail. I feel so light headed. I seem to be talking to my father as I did when I was a little boy. I hear singing and I see such lovely things - I -- I -- (Sinks on ground beside horse. Joe comes cautiously from behind cabin approaches Wep-ton-no-mah knife in hand.)

Joe.

I'd do th work myself and make sure, but I'm afraid he's only

shaming to draw me out, and he's too dead a shot for me to take any chance os. (Exit L. 2. E. Garry appears and beckons to Sam then both exit L. U. E. Rodrequez comes on L. U. E. looks at Wep-ton-no-mah. Garry goes behind horse.)

Rod.

Ha! ha! the smoked bottle did it's work. Well, now he is an easy victim. (goes to take mail-bag off horse. Garry sticks pistol in his face.)

Garry.

I guess not, says Con. (drives Rod. in R. Corner where he is seized by Fox) Sam, Sam come help me to rise the poor boy up. (bus. Sam and Rod. Sam helps Garry.) Sure he's not hurted at all only his senses is gone. See Sam he's coming round. Glory be to goodness the mail is safe. Wep-ton-no-mah, me boy, what was the blackguards trying to do to yez? (turning to Rod. levelling pistol) And as for you, you mean sneaking copper colored looking thief, tell us who your leader is or I'll blow the yaller face off ye.

Rod.

How should I know.

Garry.

Come, come, out wid it.

Rod.

Spanish Joe.

Everybody.

Spanish Joe!

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Spanish Joe! Where is he? Bring him to me. Show him to me, that I may meet him face to face. Well, why don't some of you speak - quick answer me before I pick out my own man. (starts for Rod.)

Garry.

(restraining him) Sure Wep-ton-no-mah he's not here; he gave us the slip but he'll be caught before long, so watch and wait.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Watch and wait, ah fiend, when next we meet it is your life or mine, but the mail, boys, is it safe?

Garry.

We didn't give the blackguards a chance to bother it.

Sam.

Yas, indeed, me and Pinkie had our eyes on it too.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

But these special letters, boys, they're gone --

Everybody.

Gone?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Ah I said I'd fool them so I gave them to Wongy to take care of for me.

Garry.

How could a horse take care of letters?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

I'll show you (takes letters from saddle) there they are safe and sound.

Everybody.

Hooray!

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Sam, see if there are any more rats in that trap. (as Sam approaches door Franklin rushes out. Sam turns back summersault) Lets see your face. (Wep-ton-no-mahpulls of Franklin's disguise)

Everybody.

Capt. Franklin. (Bus. and Curtain)

End of Act 4th.

A C T V .

Colonel and Bugler discovered at rise. Bugler on run.

Colonel.

So Wep-ton-no-mah sent you to tell me that he and the troops had everything arranged to his satisfaction. In that case, Spanish Joe's time is drawing fast to a close. Sound a call I want to see Capt. Franklin. (Bugler sounds call) If Wep-ton-no-mah's plan is successful, we will sweep these thieving marauders out of existence, and his expeditions are always successful. (Enter Franklin L. U. E., saluting.) Any news Capt.?

Franklin.

None, sir, except what you have already been told.

Colonel.

Then all we can do is to be on the alert and wait developments (laughing and voices heard)

Franklin.

(looking off) Here comes the family, Col. This isn't the best place for a picnic just at present.

Col.

We'll see that no harm comes to them. So now I go and see that all is in readiness. Get back to your command as soon as possible. I suppose that you heard that Wep-ton-no-mah had captured Rodrequez, who to save his own neck has betrayed Spanish Joe's gang and their plans, and is now a member of Wep-ton-no-mah's forces -- follow me shortly. (Exit L. U. E.)

Bugler.

Capt., I am glad to hear that you and your Uncle are on such good terms again.

Franklin.

Yes, through the kindness of Wep-ton-no-mah shielding me in that affair at Lost Cabin, I have been able to square myself with the Major. The Colonel has taken all my debts and taken me back

into his affections again. We received the mail Wep-ton-no-mah sent in by the scout. We knew he was on the trail of Spanish Joe or he would have brought it himself. He is a noble fellow and I would die in his defence.

Bugler.

Indeed, Capt., he is a faithful boy.

Franklin.

(starting to go) Well come along. We'll go to the fort and get ready for the movement against the cattle thieves. (both exit R. U. E. Garry, Sam, Matilda, and Nellie come on from L. U. E. roaring and laughing. Sam has basket.)

Garry.

(laughing) Sam, don't yez ever tell me another story like that. I almost bursted me back open laughing.

Matilda.

(taking basket from Sam) Sam, give me the basket or you'll eat all our lunch.

Garry.

Matildy, won't ye give us something to eat out o' the basket. We're awfully hungry after the long walk.

Matilda.

Gentlemen, supper will be ready as soon as everybody is ready for supper. (Garry bows to Matilda, Sam to Nellie, strike backs together, knock each other in opposite directions.

Garry.

Sam, I don't think you're accustomed to ladies' society. You have no manners at all. Why don't you take that Siberian hound from under your arm.

Sam.

Deed, I ain't going pirooting round dis wild country wid out something to pretect meself wid. Yo bet nobody ain't gwine to pester me when dey see dis ere dog. Garry, don't it seem strang to you that whenever Wep-ton-no-mah shows up there is always a Mexican in the neighborhood.

Garry.

Sure, that Mexican's got it in for him yet but just when he thinks he's got him dead to rights, he'll think he was struck by lightning. Where's Miss Nellie, did she climb a tree. (Nellie hides behind tent.)

Sam.

Ah, dar she is - dar she is.

Garry.

I thought you was lost, Miss Nellie. Won't you plase sing us a song while we're waiting for the folks to come.

Nellie.

Why, certainly. I'll sing for you if it drives everyone off the place. (sings, as singing stops Sam looking intently off R. U. E. Garry approaches him, asks him quietly.

Garry.

What you hear for, to my ears the woods are dumb.

Sam.

I hear horses coming.

Garry.

I hear nothing, not the sound of man or beast.

Sam.

I see the bushes move, hark there goes the cracking of a dry twig.

Garry.

It might be an Indian.

Sam.

But not one of this tribe.

Joe.

(coming on briskly R. U. E. and stopping when facing rifle.)

Sam.

(rifle at Joe's breast) Who comes?

Joe.

A hunter who has lost his way in the woods.

Garry.

Then you're lost and know how helpless it is not to know whether to take your right hand or your left.

Joe.

I'm hungry, tired, want rest. (sits on bank.)

Garry.

Hungry! Ah, me poor fellow, just sit down here and rest yourself. (handing plate with food on it which Joe takes.) Now, sir, here's all the indelicacies of the season prepared by our French cooks from Co rk. Who are ye, sir?

Joe.

I'm a Hunter.

Garry.

Where's your traps?

Joe.

I was on a hunt and while I slept some one stole my outfit. I lost my way but luckily discovered your camp.

Garry.

Ah, well, now make yourself as easy as you can, and when the Chief comes back, he'll brace you up; he's a regular physician, so he is.

Joe.

Who is the Chief?

Garry.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Joe.

So he is here?

Garry.

What's tha t you say, sir.

Joe.

(hesitatingly) I say I'm glad I'm here.

Garry.

Oh!oh!

Sam.

Oh, ah, yes - I thought you said you wanted a a glass o' beer.

Garry.

Sam, have ye no sympathy at all (to Joe) Why, of course you're glad yer here and we're all glad we're here. This is a fine place to be in, ain't that so, Sam?

Sam.

(suddenly waking) Yes, oh yes, Garry, what is it?

Garry.

Ah, what's the use in talking to you. (goes up to stump.)

Joe.

Where is the Chief?

Garry.

Gone hunting.

Joe.

Gone hunting, eh? I'll hunt him.

Sam.

(soliloquizing) Dat's a mighty strange wild looking sort o' man talking to hisself, dey do say dat when anyones talking to demselves dey is talking to de Debil. What he want to know about Wep-ton-no-mah, so particular fur. Garry say he done gone hunting. Golly, I wish he would come back. I don't like de looks of dat e'er chap and fust thing he knows I done got Pinkie on him. (Music. Wep-ton-no-mah rides on quickly L. U. E.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

I am pursued by an evil spirit but have once more escaped his murderous hand.

Garry.

What's up!

Wep-ton-no-mah.

No time talk now the Hunted Wolf is on the path of vengeance and his fangs will spare none. (rides off R. U. E. Everybody runs off except Joe. Garry comes rushing on down to R. corner. Joe comes down to him knife in hand.)

Joe.

Who is that Indian?

Garry.

Sure, I don't know any more than yourself.

Joe.

Bah! (runs to L. jumps over bank and off.)

Garry.

What was that a grassshopper? He paid us such a flying visit that I din't have a chance to make his acquaintance; he says the evil spirit's after him and from the rate he's going at I think the evil spirit stands a pretty good chance of being a long ways after him. The spirits after him? sure, it's mesself would be willing to go after the spirits. I wish I had a drap now to steady me nerves. (turns to go up, Sam comes rushing on from L. U. E. Garry rushes back to R. Corner) Ah, git out wid ye. I thought ye was another Injun. (Exits R. U. E.)

Sam.

(Pinkie under his arms.) Say! is day any more ob dem naked monsters come flying frough dese ere woods, dey's worsen bed bugs; it's a lucky thing fur him Pinkie didn't get hold of him. I think it's about time I got up and dusted. Yo bet I'd light out right way if I wasn't afraid to leave don agin I'm afraid to stay here, deed I don't know what to do. I guess I'll consult wid Pinkie and see what is best. I ain't gwine to let no Injuns scalp Pinkie and me. Come on Pinkie let's go. (Exit R. U. E.)

Joe.

(Enters cautiously L. U. E.) That Indian's words affected me strangely, perhaps I'm getting nervous. I can't account for this sudden feeeling. My gang is just waiting for the signal and when Wep-ton-no-mah returns we'll fire the camp and send him where his father. I sent Ah! ha, Wep-ton-no-mah your time is almost come. (Chord. turns and meets Wep-ton-no-mah who has entered quietly during speech, recovering) Where is your Chief?

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Chief Gan-ne-gua is dead, murdered by a shot fired through his

wigwam while he was making light for his boy to make the big book talk, with his heart full of love for all mankind, but his son, Wep-ton-no-mah stands here in his place. Who are you?

Joe.

A chief who has wandered through the shades of forest since sunrise. I've lost me way. I'm hungry, tired, want rest, may I stay here tonight.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Rest here in peace. (Wep-ton-no-mah points off, Joe exits R. 2. E. - soliloquizing) An Indian lost in the woods. When the sun was scorching the tree tops and the water courses are full. When the moss on every beech he sees tells him in which quarter the North star will shine at night, the woods are full of deer paths which run to the streams, places well known to everybody. It's strange an Indian should be lost in the woods. He is not an Indian. (Enter Garry R. U. E. cautiously approaching Wep-ton-no-mah.)

Garry.

With what a devil's glare does he eye that Indian. Won't ye have something to eat.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Wep-ton-no-mah give you bad luck if he eat your food, and where ever he goes death follows. (grasping Garry by wrist) (Music) Listen, me tell you many months ago evil spirit came. I wake up at night and drive it from my wigwam as it stands over me to kill me with a knife, bullets from bad spirit's rifle whistle by me for I bear a charmed life, thinking to escape the evil spirit I wandered from one place to another but still it followed, followed, followed. Even now I feel it is on my trail, and whenever I feel it's presence I hasten on-on- towards the setting sun.

Garry.

Ah well me poor fellow, just lay down there and rest yourself. (Wep-ton-no-mah lays down on bank) And if the evil spirit comes

monkeying round here he'll wish he'd never ~~xxxxx~~ showed up at all. Sam! Sam!

Sam.

Yas. (comes on with Pinkie R. U. E.)

Garry.

Sam, it's your turn to stand watch tonight so keep a sharp eye open. (Garry lays in front of tent.)

Sam.

What! you expose I going to stay here and dat crazy Injun here wid de Evil Spirits after him. I ain't gwine to run my head into the berry jaws ob death look dr now. Stretching deyselves out to sleep jest as comfortable as if dey was to home and trust ting to me to guard dem. Deed, if anyone starts to tackle meI ain't gwine to pester about nobody else. I'se gwine to lite out and save dis ere hide o'mine; it's de only one I got and I'm gwine to take mighty good care of it too you bet. (frightened) Ugh! every bush and stone looks as if it had an Indian or a greaser behind it, and dese long shadows look like giant fingers reaching out to grab me (sharp whistle. Sam falls on knees) ~~Oh~~ Oh! Lord I'm a dead nigger sure. (picking up Pinkie) don't you be afeard Pinkie I'll protect you.

Garry.

(Walking up) Who whistled.

Sam.

Deed, I don't know.

Garry.

Hush, Sam keep a sharp eye open, and if ye see anything move give the alarm at once. (lays down again.)

Sam.

Anything move? if I do ise gwine to move a good deal faster dan it does you'll hear from me pretty quick. I'm gwine out on de picket line. Come on Pinkie les go. (Music. Exit R. U. E.)

Wep-ton-no-mah.

(stealthily approaches Garry, takes him by wrist and pulls him

up, crosses to L. Corner) Can the pale face sleep while danger surrounds him.

Garry.

What's up now? is the evil spirit after you again.

Wep-ton-no-mah.

The evil spirit still pursues me and when the great Manitou has put out the lights in the lodge above. Wep-ton-no-mah will drive the evil spirit away. You know the man that went in yonder tent?

Garry.

Yes!

Wep-ton-no-mah.

That was Spanish Joe.

Garry.

Spanish Joe!

Wepton-no-mah.

Hush! he has fallen into his own trap, he has our camp surrounded but I have his gang surrounded; he or I will never leave this place alive. Come Garry and we'll watch him like the creeping Panther. (both exit L. U. E.)

Sam.

(sneaking on with Pinkie) I don't know what makes me feel so queer; ever since I been out on guard Pinkie been crying and whining and de horses been neighing and stomping jes like dey was crazy like so I jes got one of de boys to take my place till I come an tole Garry and Wep-ton-no-mah. (looks about) Where is dey, I don't see nothing of dem. I tell you something is going to happen sure else dem fellers wouldn't be missing, deed me and Pinkie ain't going to get scalped. Come on Pinkie les go. (starts for L. 1. E.)

Garry.

(Comes from L. U. E.) Hush! (Sam imitates) him) Sam prepare yourself there's going to be war.

Sam.

(surprised) Is dey!

Garry.

Yes, come on (exit followed by Sam L. U. E. Sam stops at entrance.)

Sam.

What's de matter wid dat wild Irishman tell me to prepare myself. What I prepare myself for come on Pinkie les go where dere ain't no war. (Starts to go off L. 1. E. Garry rushes on L. U. E.)

Garry.

Sam, do you want to lose your wool, didn't I tell you there was going to be war!

Sam.

Is dey, shore nuff!

Garry.

Yis come on. (they rush off L. U. E.)

Matilda.

(rushes on screaming R. U. E.) Oh, such a time I don't know whether I standing on me head or heels. I don't see anything wrong or I don't hear anything but I feel something is going to happen. Oh gracious, I do wish people would behave themselves. (Yells heard, rushes off L. U. E.)

Nellie.

(running on R. U. E.) Oh, I wish I had staid at home. I'm sure something terrible is going to happen.

Garry.

(coming on suddenly) Miss Nellie, come! (exits L. U. E.)

Joe.

(coming on looking about.) Wep-ton-no-mah is very cunning, he is concealed somewhere, and if he don't show up soon I'll burn him out of his concealment. Now to see who is the most cunning (Exit R. 2. E. Red fire everybody rushes about yelling and screaming and off at different entrances.)

Colonel.

(coming on quickly., sabre in hand) What! the camp on fire. No one about I suppose they are all on the alert. Major Russell and Wep-ton-no-mah have the whole Mexican gang surrounded and only wait the signal to capture them. This is going to be a lively night. (Exit on run L. 1. E.)

Rodrequez,

(at explosion stagger on L. U. E. whirls round and falls, rises on elbow) Guess all up with me, but I have my revenge on Spanish Joe. Sound the bugles. I'll die in Wep-ton-no-mah's cause.

Joe.

(rushing on knife in hand) Burn, curse you, burn, I have made a bold attempt to bring him out, I can't bear this suspense any longer; he is nowhere to be found. We are hemmed in by soldiers and Indians and have got to fight. (turns sees Rodrequez.Scream of rage) Ah! you miserable traitor, this is your work. I have you at last, fate has thrown you in my way. (going to right corner gripping knife) You are unarmed, wounded and alone. All I have to do is to cut your heart out. (turns savagely sees Wep-ton-no-mah, is horrified.)

Weptonnomah.

Then you'll have to cut through me.

Joe.

(surprised) Wep-ton-no-mah!

Wep-ton-no-mah.

Yes, Wep-ton-no-mah.

Terrific knife combat; Joe is conquered.

Curtain

and

End.

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